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fundamental nature of law, adopted by various writers, are considered in their logical and historical aspects. The point of view is broad and undidactic. In the rapidity and clearness of this analysis lies, as it seems to the reviewer, the greatest value of the "General Theory of Law." Although the reader is introduced to writers on legal theory, some of whom must be known only by name, if at all, he discovers that many of their doctrines have a familiar ring in his ears. Some of these doctrines he may find that he has himself unconsciously adopted. To know what place they occupy in the history of legal theory cannot fail to be valuable and interesting; it may also be surprising, and not wholly gratifying.

So far as a definition of law can be contained in a phrase, the one at which the author eventually arrives in the course of his historical discussion is that law is the "delimitation of interests." In the second and third books are treated such large social forces as enter into this delimitation. Since the greater part of the author's concern is with the elements which determine the rules, rather than with the interests themselves, the student or lawyer trained in specific instances feels in his footing a little unsteadiness, which is not diminished by the fact that many of the illustrative examples — and their entire number is not too numerous — are unfamiliar.

The last book, entitled "Positive Law," contains more of the sort of material included in the usual works on "Jurisprudence," — how actual legal conditions meet the test of theory. Since a Russian is the author, and the book is for Russian students in the first place, particular attention is naturally paid to Russian law.

Whether or not the author is followed in all his surprisingly ingenious theories, the reader will find many detached paragraphs and statements most stimulating to his imagination. For example, when the author, in pointing out the line of demarcation between morality and law, says: "Morality furnishes the criterion for the proper evaluation of our interests; law makes out the limits within which they ought to be confined. To analyze out a criterion for the evaluation of our interests is the function of morality; to settle the principles of the reciprocal delimitation of one's own and other people's interests is the function of law."

The translator's task has obviously been an exceedingly difficult one. Much of the literature of legal theory has been in foreign tongues. Many words and phrases have acquired a technical meaning, which cannot be reproduced by literal translation. Professor Korkunov has not confined himself to Russian for his vocabulary. The equivalents adopted by Professor Hastings, though sometimes strained and unusual, are not lengthy paraphrases. For this reason, and because the labor of the translator seems to have been a labor of love, the text is easy and pleasant to read, and does not exhaust the attention.

A. T. W.

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A MANUAL OF MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE. By Marshall D. Ewell. Second Edition. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company. 1909. pp. x, 407.

In this book, the first edition of which was published in 1887, the author presents a general survey of the field of medical jurisprudence. The leading topics of the science are treated with a reasonable degree of completeness, excepting only the topics of insanity and toxicology. Of these only outlines are attempted on account of lack of space. The author states principles clearly and develops them with sufficient fullness to make the book useful as an introduction to the subject or as a means of review. Except as an introduction, an attorney might have little occasion to use it; for in the trial of cases depending on matters connected with medicine or surgery, he would often want a fuller treatment of the special branch involved, while the legal information is of rather a general nature.

The changes in the second edition made to conform with the present state of the science are comparatively few. One would expect, for example, to find some mention of the medico-legal bearing of the X-rays. At the end of each chapter references have been added, and in the bibliography the most recent and exhaustive treatises are included. The book seems admirably adapted for the use of students.

R. T. H.

**PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR DRAWING WILLS AND THE SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES IN PENNSYLVANIA.** By John Marshall Gest. Philadelphia: T. & J. W. Johnson Company. 1909. pp. xx, 152.

The writer apologetically prefaces his work with the remark of Lawyer Thompson in the Ordeal of Richard Feverel: "Ours is an occupation which dries the blood." And, indeed, the title suggests the very humdrum of law practice, — the labored efforts of the scrivener and the routine processes of administration. But the author's work belies his own confession. On the dull-est subjects its pages are illuminated by quaint illustrations drawn from Coke's Littleton, and the Doctor and Student, and other old masters in the law. The author combines the lore of the antiquary with the practical wisdom of experience. A subtle humor pervades his exposition of the most formal doctrines of the law, but the humor of the author nowhere rules his thought. The book is truly unique in that, while written in a lighter vein, it is of unusual accuracy and practical value. The chapter on drawing wills points out, as can only be done by an experienced guide, the many pitfalls that beset the path of the unwary testator, and his lawyer as well. The chapter on the settlement of estates shows a singularly intimate acquaintance with the practice in that field. The book as a whole is so well written that it is hoped that the fact that it is concerned with purely local law will not prevent it from enjoying the general circulation which it merits.

H. F. S.

**A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF FIDELITY BONDS.** By M. Barratt Walker. Baltimore: King Brothers. 1909. pp. xv, 287.

The scope of this work is very limited and the main principles of the law of suretyship are not touched upon. The author confines himself within the narrow bounds suggested by the title. Within the walls of the subject treated the book is rather a collection of cases arranged under appropriate heads and subheads, than a work in which the underlying principles of the law bearing on the subject are set forth. Indeed the author says that "most of the text is in the words of the law" and "very little in deduction or opinion by the author." This plan the writer has carried out literally, and there are long excerpts from opinions and numerous cases are cited with very little comment to point out their application. The book is rather a collection of briefs on the various topics treated with well-selected cases as authorities. As such, its use is very limited and its value will decrease as new cases are adjudicated by the courts.

S. ST. F. T.

**A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF LABOR UNIONS.** By W. A. Martin. Washington: John Byrne and Company. 1910. pp. xxv, 649.

**A LAWYER'S RECOLLECTIONS.** By George A. Torrey. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company. 1910. pp. 227.

**A DIGEST OF ENGLISH CIVIL LAW.** By Edward Jenks. Book II, part III. London: Butterworth and Company. 1910. pp. 431-544.